

What is claimed is:

1. A device for shielding a coupling, said device defining a generally central opening in which said coupling is disposed and at least one socket hole into which a thin wall deep socket can operate to engage and disengage a screw into and from said socket hole.

2. The device of claim 1 comprising first and second halves, said first and second halves being mateable to define said opening and at least partially surround said coupling.

3. The device of claim 2 comprising a plurality of holes defined through said first and second halves, said plurality comprising

(a) said socket hole, said socket hole being defined in one of said first and second halves, and

(b) at least one threaded hole defined in the other of said first and second halves, said threaded hole being opposed to said socket hole.

4. A device for preventing disconnection of a coupling, said device comprising:

(a) first and second halves, said first and second halves being mateable to define an opening and at least partially surround said coupling,

(b) a plurality of holes defined through said first and second halves, said plurality comprising

(i) a first socket hole defined in one of said first and second halves,

(ii) a first threaded hole defined in the other of said first and second halves and opposed to said first socket hole,

(iii) a second socket hole defined in one of said first and second halves,

(iv) a second threaded hole defined in the other of said first and second halves and opposed to said second socket hole,

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wherein said first and second socket holes are defined on opposite sides of said opening and wherein each socket hole is aligned with a corresponding threaded hole, and

(c) two threaded fasteners, wherein each threaded fastener respectively engages one of said socket holes and threadedly engages the aligned threaded hole.

5. The device of claim 4 wherein said first socket hole and said second threaded hole are defined in said first half, and wherein said second socket hole and said first threaded hole are defined in said second half.

6. The device of claim 4 wherein said first and second socket holes are defined in said first half, and wherein said first and second threaded holes are defined in said second half.

7. The device of claim 4 wherein each half includes an inner surface having a pair of opposing flanges extending therefrom, and wherein each flange has a pair of exposed ends,

wherein said pair of exposed ends of said flange of said first half are adapted to engage said pair of exposed ends of said flange of said second half.

8. The device of claim 4 wherein each half has a middle portion and opposite ends extending therefrom, and wherein said plurality of holes are respectively defined in said opposite ends of each half.

9. The device of claim 4 wherein at least one of said two threaded fasteners has a non-hexagonal head.

10. The device of claim 7 wherein said flanges extend from said inner surface at a substantially right angle.

11. A vehicle comprising an odometer and an odometer cable having a length, wherein at least one coupling is disposed along said length, and wherein a device of claim 1 at least partially surrounds said coupling.

12. A device for preventing disconnection of a coupling, said device comprising:

(a) first and second halves, said first and second halves being mateable to form an opening and at least partially surround said coupling, and

(b) a plurality of holes defined through said first and second halves, said plurality comprising

(i) a socket hole defined in said first half, and

(ii) a threaded hole defined in said second half opposed to said socket hole, and

(c) a threaded fastener, wherein said threaded fastener engages said socket hole and threadedly engages said threaded hole.

13. The device of claim 12 further comprising means for preventing rotation of one half relative to the other.

14. The device of claim 13 wherein said means for preventing rotation comprises at least one peg extending from one of said first and second halves and at least one corresponding hole defined in the other of said first and second halves.

15. A method of preventing disconnection of a coupling using a device having first and second halves that are mateable to form an opening, a plurality of holes defined in said first and second halves, said plurality of holes including at least one socket hole defined in one of said first and second halves and at least one threaded hole defined in the other of said first and second halves, and at least one threaded fastener, said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) fitting said first and second halves over said coupling, such that said coupling is disposed in said opening,
- (b) aligning said socket hole with said threaded hole,
- (c) inserting said threaded fastener into said socket hole and threadedly engaging said threaded fastener with said threaded hole.

16. The method of claim 15 wherein said at least one threaded fastener is threadedly engaged with said threaded hole using a thin-wall deep socket.